

The Cumberland Bulletin

CUMBERLAND PLATEAU - THURSDAY OF FEBRUARY 1861 - Editor Bawyer B. Binton

CALLS FOR UNITY IN RECENT LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Multiple prominent members of the Kentucky legislature spoke this past Tuesday on the topic of secession, notably the Constitutional Unionist of our own Cumberland Plateau, as well as the Die-Hard Whig Mr. Whig, and the Jacksonian Democrat, John Wilkan. Mr. Whig brought to the session valid concerns regarding the uncertainty of secession, our rights and liberties that we all enjoy as members of the Union are lost if we are to secede, and the Constitutional Unionist pointed out the lack of Constitutional basis or authority for states in the Union to secede. Finally, John Wilkan delivered a passionate speech regarding his own thoughts on the topic.

Legislator John Wilkan argued a position we at the Cumberland Bulletin wholeheartedly agree with -

government is not something which can be tossed aside as soon as we disagree with something being done. The laws and constitution of our Union were made to be followed, not nullified or ignored as we see fit. Importantly, the Union is not oppressing us.

Though certainly many of us disagree with recent actions of the government, and we are concerned with what may happen in the future, leaving the Union that has allowed us to grow to where we are today is not a solution to this problem. If the laws of the federal government are not serving the interests of our people, that is all the more reason to involve ourselves deeply in its processes. Through proper and legal involvement and actions, the government can be improved such that it best serves the needs and interests of all of our people.

As many legislators pointed out today, there is no end to the cycle of "what-ifs" we can

ask ourselves about what might happen in the future, but taking action on a hypothetical situation that may never occur is irrational.

Despite the majority of distinguished speakers during this session making sound points on the issue of secession, a resolution was introduced to recognize the legitimacy of South Carolinas secession, which is to be voted on during the next session.

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 Are respectfully invited to call and examine my New
 Store, and my well selected stock of
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 Which I have selected with great care, in view of giving
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 A Fine and Large Stock of
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 FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

"CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA" SPELLS TROUBLE FOR OUR NATION!

Starting with South Carolina, 7 states have now seceded from the United States of America, among these is South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas. Following a recent meeting among a so-called "Provisional Congress", the states have joined together to form a "Confederate States of America" (CSA) and have now adopted what they call a provisional constitution.

These actions are a slap in the face to those who founded this great country with the promise of unity among the states. With an election done not by the people, instead by the delegates of these 7 states, Jefferson Davis has been chosen as the President of the CSA, with Alexander Stephens serving as his vice president.

As Kentuckians, we share a border with these states.

Certainly, these actions will cause us no small amount of trouble. The seceded states uniting is only going to accelerated tensions between the north and the south, making the likelihood of conflicts and perhaps even war all the more likely. Continuing to participate in extensive trade with these states will now cause complications for our relationship with the Union – the Union which we are all quite loyal to. Our founding fathers did not create this great country only for us to create division amongst ourselves – yet indeed this is what is happening.

What issues may now arise for those whose family is in these states? How will continued trade with any of these states affect our relationship with the Union? Yet, if we do not, where does that leave our people? We owe much of the population growth, increase in wealth, and development of material resources in the Union to the unity of our many states. Disunion will bring disaster to our country. If Lincoln is to adhere to the platform of his Republican party, the secession of these states from our Union holds no constitutional weight and is to be viewed as treason against our country, an act which should, and most probably will, be rebuked by Lincoln and the Federal Government.

We as Kentuckians must not support this new Confederacy which has been formed by our Southern Neighbors. As proud citizens of both our state and people of the United States of America, we must stand strong on our principles and with our Constitution as it was written.

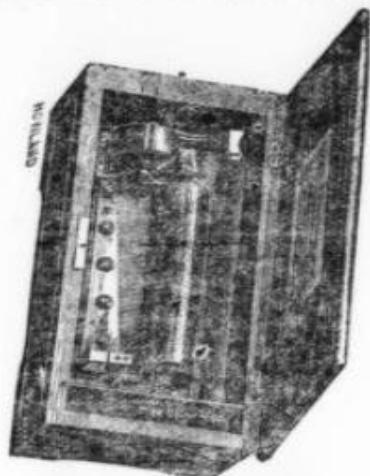
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 plaints of Stomach and Bowels. For Fever and Ague a
 specific. It has been favorably known for more than
 twenty years to be the only cure specific for the many
 diseases incident to the human family. Internally and
 externally it works equally sure.
 Fever and Ague and Cholera and Dysentery quickly yield to
 the power of the Pain-Killer.
 What stronger proof of these facts can be produced
 than the following letter received, unolicited, from Rev.
 A. W. CURTIS.
 Boston, Mass., Mich., July 9, 1860.
 Messrs. J. N. Harris & Co.—Gentlemen: The con-
 fidence I have in Perry Davis' Pain Killer as a remedy for
 Cholera, Coughs, Burns, Sprains and Rheumatism, for the
 cure of which I have successfully used it, induces me
 to cheerfully recommend its virtues to others.
 A few months ago I had recourse to it to destroy a
 tumor—although I had never heard of its being used for
 that purpose, but having suffered intensely from a for-
 mer one, and having no other remedy at hand, I ap-
 plied the Pain Killer freely for about fifteen minutes at
 evening, and repeated the application very briefly the
 next morning—which entirely destroyed the tumor, and
 increased my confidence in the utility of the remedy.
 Yours, truly,
 A. W. CURTIS,
 Minister of the Western Methodist Church.

THE PAIN KILLER
 Has been tested in every variety of climate, and by al-
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 constant companion and inestimable friend of the mi-
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 Directions accompany each bottle.
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 I HAVE on hand and for
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Below is a letter received by the Cumberland Bulletin by a member of the Kentucky Legislature, Mr. Stilton Banner. We are compelled to include this writing, though noticeably Mr. Banner's argument is built not on any fact or rational statistic but on a misguided, and at some points contradictory, moral principle of religion:

Sir, in this time of great national turmoil, when passion often takes precedence over morals, I feel compelled to address the distinctions that many draw between the labor systems of the North and the South. Let us cast aside the bravado of abolitionists and the boasting of those who say "free labor" as it was the definition of

moral good. There was a curse laid upon Adam, by the sweat of your brow you will eat your bread", this is the universal condition of man ordained by God. It does not matter if one labors in a Northern factory or under the paternal care of a Christian master upon a Southern plantation, this deed of working has not been decided by man, but by providence. We should not question having to labor, but under what condition fulfils ones "moral probation."

In the South, the relationship between master and slave is like one of parent and child, an obligation towards both which cultivates a Christian character. In the North, those in the supposed free labor system are dependent on the mercy of the market. If something is to change in a moment's notice his family is left to starve when the contract is broken without reason. I would like to ask you which systems seem to reflect a divine institution, and which more effectively improves a soul's moral condition?

If you are to first follow the Bible I hope for you to see the importance of keeping this institution. Recently there have been many threats to this righteous institution which are not solely from the North. Even here in Kentucky, we face dangers from within. I refer to those who speak unwisely

about easing manumission laws. The Manumission Act of 1860 was a necessary act which recognized that freedom is a gift that must be earned for those who are prepared. To release those who are enslaved is not wise and is often cruelty as they have not developed the capacity to make their own decisions. Additionally, if we are to release slaves without any reason there is not stopping anything from wicked slaveowners who release those who are weak or too old. Staying hard on this principle is what keeps slaveowners from their greed. I plead with you and every man of principle to stand firm.

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Address JAMES DAWSON, J. H. MCCANN, M.D.

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plaint, Dropsy, Edema, Hernia, Tumors and
Said Rheum, Gout, Neuralgia, as a
Dinner Pill, and for Purify-
ing the Blood.

THE DECEPTIVE TRUTH OF SECESSION!

The following is an excerpt from the Daily Louisville Democrat on February 5th, 1861, wherein the editor expresses the problems and foolishness with the idea of secession, a position we at the Cumberland Bulletin find ourselves inclined to agree with. This editor provides beneficial insight from a perspective many of us share – with a clear discussion of the history of our great United States:

Have we forgotten our own history? After the revolution, the great Washington submitted to delays and indignities; his successors submitted after his example; for we were weak. We lacked the power to redress our wrongs. Later still we submitted long to the Berlin and Milan decrees, and the orders in council. We saw our citizens lawlessly impressed into foreign service, and their property confiscated. Long and patiently we submitted; for want of power. We shall soon be able, said Jefferson, to dictate the laws of our intercourse with other nations. The time has come. We now enjoy the right of dictation; and will soon have it in perfection, by Union. By secession, we throw this right away and the Southern Confederacy will be compelled to tie her hands, so that she will not have

a chance for a foot of soil over which to extend and protect slavery. We plunge headlong into the very difficulty we long have foreseen with slavery in its present limits. Then look forward to our condition a hundred years hence, with more slaves than we want; with no resources but within ourselves, and not a foot of soil outside of our limits to relieve us. On the other hand, let us see what this Union has done to secure the South against a redundancy of slaves. Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi are states which added to the Union and made room for slaves. We have purchased territory, out of which Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, and Florida have been admitted into the Union. Texas, with her empire of land, all slave territory, was a foreign Republic. She was, after a struggle, acquired. So much has this Union done for the South; is it even possible that your Southern Confederacy will be able to do so much? New Mexico is also slave territory, with its vast area, acquired by this Union. Has the South had any reason to complain yet, that she has not room enough? On the contrary, her patriots, so called, complain that they have not slaves enough to people their land, and want to reopen the slave trade to get more. In addition to this, when all the territory suited to slave labor is

more than filled, in generations to come, the vast power of the Union can dispose of the redundancy, without difficulty, by colonization when a less power would be overwhelmed with it. Now, shall we give up the chance of extending slavery in the Union, for the sake of secession, with the no power for expansion at all? Is secession such a boon in itself that we should give up all rights to get it?

We know that visions of a Southern Republic flit before the disordered fancy of precipitators. They see it extended over Cuba, Mexico, and Central America. It is all an idle dream. Common sense dissipates the vision.

There is a right, besides the right of protection to persons and property, in all lands. The stars and stripes carry the power of this great Republic, to protect its citizens in all countries. Where the flag of this country floats, the American citizen, far from his native or adopted home, is safe. This is a right we have, which gigantic powers only, can give. Is any one for secession without this right?

We have only mentioned rights, prominent and tangible, which stand out in bold relief; rights talked about, and those supposed to be in danger in the Union. We are for the Union, provided we can obtain our

rights. Let us be rational, on the other hand, and not be for secession without the proviso. Let no secessionist deceive himself, by mere claptrap, thinking he is zealous for his rights, when he is ready for secession without his rights. If, indeed, he thinks so much of his rights, let him be for secession, *provided* he can get his rights. The truth is, he gives up the rights he prattles about, and doesn't know how much more he must sacrifice before he gets through. It is certain, that by secession he loses many he now has, and can gain none he has not.

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THE WASHINGTON ARTILLERY OF
CHARLESTON, S. C. – Harper Weekly

THE UNION AND SOUTH CAROLINA CONFLICT OVER FORT SUMTER

The following excerpt is taken from an edition of the Daily Louisville Democrat published on February 9th, 1861. The article provides a small update on correspondence between President Lincoln and Colonel Hayne of South Carolina, where tensions are spiking between the state and the Union. Col. Hayne, after stating the refusal to surrender Fort Sumter to be an occasion for war and stating the question to be one of mere property, goes on to write in his letter that South Carolina may not be held accountable for firing upon the Star of the West, an unarmed vessel, because it was filled with armed men:

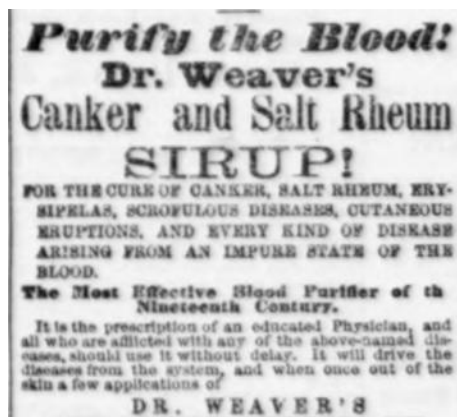
The summary of Hayne's instructions are, that he does not go as a military man to demand the surrender of a fort, but as a legal officer of the State, as its Attorney General, to claim for the State the exercise of its undoubted right of domain, and to pledge that the State make good all injury to rights of property which arise from the claim. The proposition therefore is to buy Fort Sumter, sustained by the declaration, in effect, that if South Carolina is not enabled to make the purchase she will seize the Fort by force of arms.

This proposal impresses the President as having assumed a most unusual form. He has, however, investigated the claim on which it professes to be based, apart from the declaration that accompanies it; that the title of the United States to the Fort is complete and uncontrovertable. Were its interest in the property simply in the ordinary acceptance of the term, it might probably be subjected to the exercise of the act of eminent domain, but it has political relations of much higher and more important character than those of mere property. It has absolute jurisdiction over the Fort and soil on which it stands, which is clearly incompatible with the claim of eminent domain. This authority is derived from peaceful secession by South Carolina, and by provision of the Constitution of the United States. South Carolina can no more assert the right of eminent domain over Sumter than Maryland over the District of Columbia.

The President, however, is relieved from the necessity of pursuing this subject to the fact that he has not the Constitutional power to cede or surrender it. The question of re enforcing Fort Sumter has been fully discussed. This discussion need not be renewed. At the present moment it is not deemed necessary to re enforce

Major Anderson because he makes no such request. Should his safety, however, require reinforcements, the effort will be made to supply them.

I can add nothing to the explicitness of this language which still applies to existing States. In my letter to Senator Slidell of January 22nd, the subject was fully discussed in the letters of Senator Davis and others to yourself. They say it is especially due from South Carolina to you, the other States, to say nothing of other slaveholding States, she should, as far as consistent with her honor, avoid meditating hostilities between herself and the United States or any other power, and you now give the President the gratifying assurance that South Carolina has every disposition to preserve the public peace; and since he is sincerely animated by the same desire, it would seem that this common and patriotic object must be of certain attainment. It is difficult, however, to reconcile with this the declaration on your part that South Carolinas own dignity, sovereignty, and the safety of her position prompts her to demand that this property shall not longer be a military post of a Government which she no longer acknowledges.



COLOPHON

This edition of the Cumberland Bulletin was written and edited by Bawyer Binton.

Information on Republican Party Platform referenced in our News Story located from <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/republican-party-platform-1860>

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Excerpt on Secession retrieved from the Daily Louisville Democrat publication

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Special Thank You for the "Letter to the Editor" written by Stilton Banner of the Jackson Purchase Region.